

Message Text

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R 132044Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 173285

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, CA

SUBJECT: R/V MCARTHUR TIDE AND CURRENT SURVEY

1. R/V MCARTHUR, A PUBLIC VESSEL, OPERATED BY THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN HARO STRAIT AND BOUNDARY PASS DURING 1976, 1977, AND 1978. THE RESEARCH WILL INCLUDE MEASUREMENTS OF CURRENTS, WEATHER, AND WATER CHARACTERISTICS. OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY ARE TO UPDATE TIDE AND TIDAL CURRENT PREDICTION DATA, PROVIDE CIRCULATION INFORMATION, AND TO REDEFINE TIDAL DATUM PLANES FOR LAND MOVEMENT AND SHORELINE BOUNDARY DETERMINATIONS. IT IS A COOPERATIVE PROJECT WITH THE PACIFIC REGION, OCEAN AND AQUATIC AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CANADA. CLEARANCE IS REQUESTED FOR THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF THE PROJECT AND THE RESEARCH FOR 1976 WILL BE DESCRIBED BELOW. RESEARCH TO BE CONDUCTED IN 1977 AND 1978 WILL BE SIMILAR TO THAT CONDUCTED IN 1976 AND EXACT DETAILS WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN DETAILS ARE FIRM.

2. RESEARCHER WILL BEGIN OPERATIONS ON 8 SEPTEMBER 1976

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BY DEPLOYING 13 MOORED CURRENT METER ARRAYS IN HARO

STRAIT AND BOUNDARY PASS. STD STATIONS WILL BE OCCUPIED IN THE VICINITY OF THE MOORINGS. FIVE TIDE GAUGES WILL

BE INSTALLED, ONE EACH ON SATURNA ISLAND, SOUTH PENDER ISLAND, MORESBY ISLAND, SIDNEY ISLAND, AND IN THE VICINITY OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA. ALSO, A 30-FOOT WIND TOWER AND AANDERAA METEOROLOGICAL PACKAGE WILL BE INSTALLED ON GOOCH ISLAND. THE CURRENT MOORINGS WILL BE ON STATION FOR PERIODS OF 15 AND 30 DAYS, THE TIDE STATIONS WILL BE OPERATED A MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS EACH, AND THE METEOROLOGICAL STATIONS WILL BE OPERATED FOR THE DURATION OF THE PROJECT. LOCATIONS OF THE STATIONS ARE BEING POUCHED.

3.(A) THE SHIP'S MASTER IS COMMANDER DARRELL W. CRAWFORD WITH A CREW OF 35 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 3. BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THREE CANADIAN SCIENTISTS AND ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE FREELY SHARED.

(B) RESEARCHER IS 854 GROSS TONS, 175 FT LONG WITH A BEAM OF 38 FT AND AN 11 FT DRAFT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS WTEJ AND SHIP CONTINUOUSLY MONITORS 500 KHZ AND 2182 KHZ AND CHANNELS 13 AND 16 VHF.

(C) SHIP'S AGENT IS CHIEF, PACIFIC MARINE CENTER OPERATIONS DIVISION (COMMANDER MICHAEL H. FLEMING).

4. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR MCARTHUR TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN GOC WATERS FOR THE RESEARCH SCHEDULED FOR 8 SEPT - 12 NOV 1976, AND FOR SUBSEQUENT PHASES WHICH WILL BE SCHEDULED DURING 1977 AND 1978. SAILING SCHEDULES AND PLANS OF OPERATION WILL BE FORWARDED FOR LATTER PHASES WHEN AVAILABLE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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